

What is claimed is:

1. A method for translating source text, comprising:
developing as part of a computer program at least a first record containing source
5 text in a first natural language;
recording an event related to said at least a first record;
recording a status of a translation of said first record into a second natural
language, wherein said first record containing source text is not a finalized version of said
source text.
2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
recording a status of a translation of said first record into a third natural language.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
revising said at least a first record containing source text in a first natural
language;
recording said revision related to said at least a first record.
4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
translating at least a portion of said at least a first record into said second natural
language;

updating said status of a translation of said at least a first record into said second
5 natural language.

5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:
after said step of translating, revising said at least a first record containing source
text in a first natural language;
detecting said revision of said at least a first record;
5 retranslating said at least a portion of said at least a first record into said second
natural language;
updating said status of a translation of said at least a first record into said second
natural language.

6. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:
after said step of translating, finalizing said computer program, wherein said
computer program is released to end users.

7. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:
translating at least a portion of said at least a first record into a third natural
language;
recording a status of a translation of said at least a first record into said third
5 natural language.

8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising:
 - after said steps of translating, revising said at least a first record containing source text in a first natural language;
 - detecting said revision of said at least a first record;
 - 5 retranslating said at least a portion of said at least a first record into said second natural language;
 - updating said status of a translation of said at least a first record into said second natural language;
 - retranslating said at least a portion of said at least a first record into said third
 - 10 natural language;
 - updating said status of a translation of said at least a first record into said third natural language.

9. The method of Claim 4, wherein said at least first record containing text in a first natural language and said translation of at least a first portion of said at least a first record into a second natural language are displayed to a translator simultaneously.

10. The method of Claim 4, wherein said text of said at least a first record in a first natural language is displayed to a translator as said text will be displayed to a user of said computer program.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein said text of said translated at least a portion of said at least a first record is displayed to said translator as said text will be displayed to said user of said computer program.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein said text and said translated text are displayed to said translator simultaneously.

13. The method of Claim 1, further comprising querying said status of said translation into said second natural language.

14. A system for facilitating the translation of a computer program,
comprising:

a processor;

a storage device;

5 an output device;

software, comprising:

at least a first status table comprising a record of changes to portions of
text written in a first natural language and included in a source computer program from a
previous version of said source computer program to a current version of said source
10 computer program, and a record of translations of said portions of text written in said first
natural language and included in said current version of said source computer program to
a second natural language;

a translation tool work sheet, comprising:

a first edit box, wherein at least a first of said portions of text
15 written in said first natural language and included in said current version of said computer
program;

a second edit box, wherein a translation of said at least a first of
said portions of text written in said first natural language and displayed in said first edit
box into a second natural language can be entered, wherein said translation of said at least
20 a first of said portions of text into a second natural language is stored as part of a target
computer program.

15. The system of Claim 14, further comprising:

a user input device, wherein a translator approves said translation of said at least a first of said portions of text written in said first natural language into a second natural language using said user input device.

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16. The system of Claim 15, wherein a translation of said at least a first of said portions of text written in said first natural language into a second natural language is entered in said second edit box by at least one of said translator and an automated process.

17. The system of Claim 15, wherein at least one of said text written in said first natural language and said translation of said at least a first of said portions of text into a second natural language are displayed as said text would appear to an end user of said source computer program.

18. A method for developing multiple natural language versions of software, comprising:

writing a first iteration of a source software program, wherein said source software program comprises at least a first component written in a first natural language;

5 determining a translation status of said at least a first component with respect to at least a second natural language;

translating said at least a first component of said source software program into a second natural language, wherein said translated first component is part of a target software program;

10 updating a translation status of said at least a first component with respect to said second natural language;

displaying said at least a first component of said software translated into said second language in a second format;

15 after said step of translating, preparing a second iteration of said software program, wherein a component of said software program written in said first natural language is at least one of written and edited.

19. The method of Claim 18, wherein said first format comprises a format in which said at least a first component in said first natural language is displayed by a version of said software utilizing said first component in said first natural language, and wherein said second format comprises a format in which said at least a first component is

5 displayed in a version of said software utilizing said translation of said first component into said second natural language.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein translating said at least a first component of said software is performed while said translated at least a first component is displayed in said first format.

21. The method of Claim 18, wherein said step of translating is performed concurrently with said step of writing a first iteration of a software program.

22. The method of Claim 18, further comprising:
monitoring development of said software program, wherein said step of translating is performed in response to detection of a revision to at least a first component of said software program written in said first natural language.

23. The method of Claim 18, further comprising:
translating said at least a first component of said software written in said first natural language into a third natural language
displaying said at least a first component of said software translated into said third
5 language in said first format.

24. The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

writing a second iteration of a software program, wherein said at least a first component of said software program written in a first natural language is edited;

translating said edited at least a first component of said software program into
5 said second language;

displaying said translated edited at least a first component of said software program in said first format.

25. A method for developing computer software, comprising:
writing first textual content in a first language, wherein said first textual content is
displayed in a first format;
modifying said first textual content in said first language;
5 recording at least first information regarding said first textual content in said first
language, wherein said at least first information comprises information related to said
modification of said first textual content;
translating said first textual content into a second language, wherein said
translated first textual content is displayed in said first format.

26. The method of Claim 25, wherein said at least first information comprises
a date of said modification of said first textual content.

27. The method of Claim 25, further comprising:
translating said modified first textual content into a second language;
recording at least first information regarding said translation.

28. The method of Claim 25, further comprising:
detecting a change in said at least first information regarding said first textual
content in said first language, wherein said step of translating is performed after said step
of detecting.

29. The method of Claim 25, wherein said first format comprises a format in which said first textual content is displayed by a computer program comprising said first textual content.

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